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Masham
Urban District Council.

Medical Officer's
52nd Annual Report.

1925.

MASHAM :
PRINTED BY A. G. ROBERTS.



The 52nd ANNUAL REPORT of the Health and Sanitary Condition of the District of the Masham Urban District Council, during the year, 1925.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Masham Urban District Council, during the year 1925.

Natural or Social Conditions of the Area.

Area of District, 16,758 acres.

The whole of the District is Agricultural, and a large portion open moorland.

During 1925 the Leeds Corporation have proceeded with the construction of the Reservoir at Leighton, employing partly local labour and partly navvies, &c., who are housed in hutments at Breary Banks. However, this work is nearly finished, and will be completed in 1926.

Population —1921 Census	..	2043.
1925 (Estimated)		2132.

Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	513
Number of Families or separate occupiers (1921)		...	513
Rateable Value	£11566
Sum represented by a penny rate	£48 3s. 10d.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS—Legitimate	48	{	Total	M.	F.	Birth-rate
Illegitimate	1		49	24	25	20·98 per 1000

The Birth-rate of 22·98 is 4·0 more than in 1924, and is 4·6 more per 1000 than the average birth-rate for England and Wales.

Table showing Townships in which Births took place :

Masham.	Ilton-cum-Pott.	Swinton.	Burton-on-Yore
18	3	4	1
Healey.	Fearby.	Ellington.	Ellingstring.
17	3	0	3

DEATHS—Males 17 ; Females 10—27. Death-rate 12·66 per 1000.

The Death-rate of 12·66 is 5·4 less than in 1924, and is ·4 more than the average death-rate for England and Wales.

Townships in which Deaths took place :

Masham.	Ilton-cum-Pott.	Swinton.	Burton-on-Yore.
9	1	1	1
Healey.	Fearby.	Ellington.	Ellingstring.
7	5	0	3

Number of women dying in consequence of child-birth. 0.

Deaths of Infants under one year old—2. Infantile death-rate 40·8, being 34·2 less than the average Infantile death-rate for England and Wales

The chief causes of death were Heart Disease 3, and Pneumonia 3. No death took place from Tuberculosis.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

1925 has been a very light year in respect of these diseases, only 2 cases of Erysipelas ; 1 new case of Tuberculosis ; 1 of Pneumonia ; and 1 of Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals :

- (1) Tuberculosis. None in the Area.
- (2) Maternity. None in the Area.
- (3) Children. None in the Area.

(4) Fever. One in Area, situated in the Marfield, supported entirely by Masham U D.C, 20 beds, ample for needs of district.

(5) Smallpox. None in area at present, but negotiations are in progress by your Council for purchase of the Isolation Hospital at Breary Banks, which will not be needed now as the construction of waterworks is nearly completed.

Ambulance Facilities—

(a) For infectious cases—one Cab.

(b) For non-infectious cases or accidents—one Motor Ambulance at Northallerton.

Clinics and Treatment Centres. None in Area.

Public Health Officers. 1 Medical Officer of Health, 1 Sanitary Inspector. Both part-time Officers.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) General. One District Nurse in Masham.

(b) For Infectious Disease. None resident.

A Trained Nurse is resident in Masham, and is available for Masham, Swinton, Warthermaske, Ellington, and Burton-on-Yore. This Nurse also acts as School-nurse. The necessary funds are raised by Public Subscription, with a small grant from the North Riding County Council. The Masham Urban District Council do not contribute to the funds.

A scheme is also on foot to provide a Nurse for Fearby, Healey, Ilton, Ellingstring, and Colsterdale.

Midwives. None practising in the district.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area—

Water.

Masham, Masham Station Fearby, and Healey, and many farm houses adjacent to the pipe track have a very excellent supply of water from a reservoir which is fed from a spring near Agra. The Leeds Corporation Village at Breary Banks has also an excellent supply of water.

Difficulty in obtaining a constant supply for Ellingstring is at the present time engaging the attention of your Council, and I trust the new scheme will remedy this defect.

Rivers and Streams.

A slight pollution of River Yore from the sewerage of Masham occurs. As, however, this river runs rapidly over a gravelly bottom, no pollution is noticeable a short distance below.

Closet Accommodation.

A number of privies have been substituted by water closets, and each year more are being converted to water closets.

Scavenging.

Movable Ashbins are gradually being substituted for fixed receptacles in this area, and are emptied at fixed intervals by Council workmen ; this work has also been extended to Fearby and Healey this year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

From the Sanitary Inspector's Report I find the district has been inspected in the usual manner.

- (a) Number of Inspections ... 21
- (b) Number of Notices ... 21 All informal notices.
- (c) Result of such notices—all nuisances have been abated

Smoke Abatement.

No action under this section has been taken by your Council, but informal notice was given respecting one very smoky chimney, and the condition has now been much improved.

Schools.

The sanitary condition and water supply to Public Elementary Schools is good within the area.

Housing.

I. General Housing conditions in the area.

General Housing conditions.—This is generally good in the district. There is no great shortage of small houses in the area, and with the completion of the Leeds Waterworks I do not anticipate any great demand for cottages.

II. Overcrowding.

Very slight in this area.

III. Fitness of houses.

General Standard of housing in area is good.

IV. Unhealthy areas. Nil.

Housing Statistics for 1925.

(a) Number of New Houses erected during 1925.

2 New. 2 Reconstructed. Total 4.

(b) With State assistance—Nil.

Inspection.

No houses have been inspected for housing defects during the year.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

In this area the milk is all produced locally and is generally wholesome and of good quality, it is always retailed straight away without being stored.

(i) No action has been taken as to Tuberculous Milk and Tuberculous Cattle.

(ii) No licenses have been granted for the sale of milk under special designation.

(b) Meat.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations came into force in 1925. Mr. Lambert, your Sanitary Inspector, was appointed Inspector under this Act, and all the regulations were explained to a meeting of butchers of this district.

The Marking Regulations were not adopted by your Council.

There is no Public Slaughter House in the district.

Private Slaughter Houses :—

	In 1920	In Jan. 1925	In Dec. 1925.
Registered ..	4	4	4
Licensed ...	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Total	4	4	4

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases during 1925 :—

	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Erysipelas ...	2	0	0
Pneumonia ...	1	0	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	0	1

Among non-notified Infectious Diseases Influenza was very prevalent in March, and the Moorheads School was closed for one week from this cause. Also a few cases of Measles occurred in September.

Tuberculosis.

Only 1 new case of this disease has been reported during 1925, viz : 1 male, aged 35, suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action under this Order has been necessary during 1925.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,


Your obedient Servant,

H. M. COCKCROFT, M.C., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Masham, June 16th, 1926.

Masham Urban District Council.



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